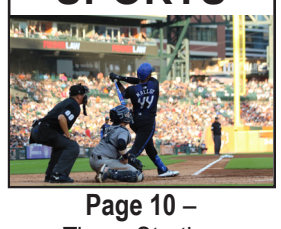
COMMUNITY

Pages 8–9
Salvadorian Grocer
Keeps Culture Alive

EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS

Michigan's #1, Oldest, Largest and Only Bilingual Hispanic News • Free! ¡Gratis! • Vol. 35, #42 • **August 22, 2024**

SPORTS



Page 10 –
Tigers Starting
To Heat Up !!!

A los latinos les entusiasma Kamala Harris, pero tiene que trabajar para ganárselos, comentan los expertos

por Fernanda Figueroa

Electores y líderes latinos en Estados Unidos dicen sentirse entusiasmados de que Kamala Harris sea la nominada presidencial demócrata, pero para que ella obtenga su crucial respaldo, quieren saber cuál es su posición con respecto a temas como la economía, la inmigración y la educación.

Vanessa Cruz Nichols, profesora adjunta de ciencias políticas en la Universidad de Indiana, dijo que Harris tiene un potencial considerable para atraer a los votantes latinos, pero tendrá que ganarse a los independientes y a aquellos que planean no votar en los comicios de noviembre, comentó:

"Ella tiene trabajo que hacer, volverse a presentar y hacerle saber a la gente cuál es su postura con respecto a diversos temas" y añadió: "Tendrá que trabajar enérgicamente para atraer a los votantes, especialmente a los latinos jóvenes que son más apartidistas, dispuestos a no participar en las elecciones o a votar por un candidato de un tercer partido".

Continúa en la pág 13

Latinos Are Excited About Harris, But She Has Work to Do to Win the Crucial Voting Bloc, Experts Say

By Fernanda Figueroa

Latino voters and leaders say they are enthusiastic about Kamala Harris as the Democratic presidential nominee, but for her to win their crucial support, they want to know where she stands on issues like the economy, immigration and education.

Vanessa Cruz Nichols, an assistant professor of political science at Indiana University, said Harris has considerable potential to appeal to Latino voters but is going to have to win over independents and those planning not to vote in the November election.

"She's got some work to do, reintroduce herself, let people know where she stands on a variety of issues," Cruz said. "She will have to work aggressively to appeal to voters, especially young Latino voters who are even more nonpartisan, more willing to either sit out an election or vote for a third-party candidate."

As the nation's largest minority group — 19.5% of the total population, according to the 2020 census — Latinos form a key voting bloc in what's shaping up to be a tight presidential election. Harris, the daughter of immigrants, has won the backing of influential Latino groups, and some feel her success hinges on energizing young Latino voters.

cont on pg.13

Attendees at the first formal meeting of Latinos Con Harris in Detroit learned about the Harris-Walz campaign's activities aimed at winning Michigan

Comerica Grant Supports SER's ReBuild Detroit Program

SER Metro-Detroit recently welcomed Steve Davis, Michigan Market President of Comerica Bank, and Hassan Melhem, Vice President - External Affairs, National Middle Eastern American Business Development. Mr. Davis presented SER with a check for $20,000 to support the ReBuild Detroit program (RBD). During his visit, he met and spoke with several students from SER's Rebuild Detroit and YouthBuild programs.

Housed within the SER Center for Working Families (CWF) in Southwest Detroit, RBD provides expanded contextualized bridge programming to 60 low-income and unemployed residents each year. Detroiters who enroll in the program receive academic instruction and work readiness training and attain the industry-recognized credentials necessary to enter directly into career pathways within the construction industry or to apply for entry into apprenticeship opportunities with SER's extensive network of labor partners.

"Our students receive individualized coaching from teachers that will assess their academic skills and develop a Career Plan to identify their career pathway and work toward their employment goals," said Veronica Sanchez Peavey, Senior Assistant Vice President for Adult Services and Regional Director at SER. "Students also receive soft skills/job readiness training and successful planning for job retention," Sanchez Peavey said.

Through SER's Center for Working Families, RBD students and the community in general will connect with a financial coach to receive financial education services including financial literacy workshops. With support from Comerica Bank, the RBD program links Detroiters with access to a highly qualified team of Instructors, Career, and Financial Coaches to prepare them for pre-apprenticeship or apprenticeship opportunities in the construction industry and financial education services to improve economic prosperity.

The program targets low-income unemployed and underemployed Detroit residents with emphasis on those living in Southwest Detroit. Key program objectives are 1. Introduction and exposure to the skilled trades; 2.Contextualized math and reading that will improve academic scores; 3. Training that will improve their skill sets; 4. Assisting participants to become employed in stable, living wage jobs/careers in the skilled trades that will increase their net income, and 5. Connecting participants to apprenticeship opportunities.

In addition, RBD students and other Detroit residents will improve their financial health through SER's Center for Working Families model. SER will 1) Educate more than 200 Detroit residents on financial education topics such as banking, budgeting, credit establishment or improvements, and homeownership; 2) Connect 40 residents to free tax preparation services at a VITA Intake Center with Accounting Aid Society and 3) Assist 100 individuals achieve a desired financial outcome.

Union and employer partners include C.A. Hull, RAM Construction, Mechanical Contractors Association (MCA) Detroit, IBEW Local 58, Union Carpenters And Millwrights Skilled Training Center, International Union of Painters and Allied Trades 1M, Sheet Metal Local 80, Carpenters Local 687, and Plumbers Local 98. These partners have sponsored graduates as pre-apprentices or first-year apprentices. Additional partners include M.U.S.T Careers, City of Detroit, DTE Energy, and Operating Engineers Local 324.

Since 2020, Comerica has granted $85,000 to the program.

Photos provided SER Metro

Steve Davis, Michigan Market President of Comerica Bank, pictured third from left, presents a check for $20,000 to SER Metro-Detroit leadership, from left, David Cunningham, Ann Leen, Eva Garza Dewaelsche and Veronica Sanchez Peavey. Pictured at far right, Hassan Melhem, Vice President - External Affairs, National Middle Eastern American Business Development at Comerica

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EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS

TU VOTO TU VOZ

2 Community
Woodward Dream Cruise

7 Education
Within Your Grasp/
A Tu Alcance

8 Community
Salvadorian grocery store in Southwest Detroit keeps culture, connection alive

10 Sports
Tigers Starting
To Heat Up !!!

12 Opinion
"Full Disclosure"

14 World Cultures
Textil Art from Guatemala/
Arte textil de Guatemala

2024 Woodward Dream Cruise!

The 2024 Woodward Dream Cruise took place this past Saturday.

The Dream Cruise has been a tradition for car lovers for over 30 years.

Even car enthusiast Jay Leno, came out to the Woodward Dream Cruise to pick up his 1963 Chrysler Turbine Car, an experimental coupe built by Chrysler.

Over 1 millions visitors, and hundreds of cars, came out to see and be part of the 2024 Woodward Dream Cruise.

Photos below are highlights from the 2024 Woodward Dream Cruise

Photos by: Adam J. Dewey

Friends sit in style waiting at a stoplight along Woodward Avenue in a mint green Cadillac

Kassim Salazar of Rochester Hills, MI shuts the door of his Nissan Skyline customized as an identical replica of the same vehicle that actor Paul Walker drives in the movie "2 Fast 2 Furious"

In addition to the many classic cars participating in the Woodward Dream Cruise, many drivers with modern vehicles made their automobiles stand out in their own unique ways

Woodward Dream Cruise participants park in front of Vinsetta Garage in Berkley, MI as they stop for a bite to eat

Muscle cars sit with their hoods open along Woodward Avenue for spectators to look at

A uniquely painted Chevy Camaro sits parked on the grass outside of the Roseland Park Cemetery in Berkley, MI along Woodward Avenue during the 2024 Woodward Dream Cruise

Spectators watch on as a 1957 Chevy Bel-Air heads southbound on Woodward Avenue

The Sea-Burban stands out amongst the many classic muscle cars and modern sports cars participating in the Woodward Dream Cruise

Detroit Home Accessibility Program

Home Entry and Exit Modifications for Disabled Detroiters

Grant Funds Are Limited. Apply As Soon as Possible

About The Program

The program provides Detroit residents with disabilities grant funded home modifications that make it easier to get in and out of their homes. If you live in Detroit and need modifications made to the entry and exit of your home, you must meet all requirements below.

Eligible Modification Categories

- Ramps or Lifts
- Widened Exterior Doors
- Handrails
- Alarm Bells

Eligibility Requirements

Property Requirements

Property must meet all requirements:

- ☑ Owner-occupied single-family home with less than two units, including duplexes and flats
- ☑ Valid homeowner's insurance policy
- ☑ Current on property taxes or on stipulated payment plan

Income

Combined household income must:

- ☑ Meet income levels on our website. Current or previous year HOPE property tax exemption would satisfy income requirement

Program Applicant & Beneficiary

Applicant must be owner of the home and beneficiary must receive one of the following benefits:

- ☑ Social Security Disability Benefits or MDHHS Children's Health Care Services or Veterans Administration Disability Benefits

Learn More & Get Started Today!

CHNHousingPartners.org/Detroit/DHAP

(866) 313-2520

Additional eligiblity requirements may apply, including additional American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) requirements.

This program is made possible through the City of Detroit ARPA funding. Full list of eligibility requirements at CHNHousingPartners.org/Detroit/DHAP

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Visite su tienda favorita de la Lotería de Michigan y juegue Daily4 hoy.

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Knowing your limits is always the best bet. Call the Michigan Problem Gambling Helpline for confidential help at 1-800-270-7117.

MICHIGAN LOTTERY™

Your Vote Decides Who Sits on the Michigan Supreme Court

It seems like there's news about the U.S. Supreme Court nearly every day. But what doesn't get nearly enough attention is the Michigan Supreme Court – and the fact that we, the people, have the power to elect our Supreme Court. Michigan is one of just 24 states that lets voters decide who sits on the highest court in the state. And every Michigander should know how the process works and why it matters.

This November, Michiganders get to choose who fills two spots on the court. This is an important civic duty and an opportunity to shape this vitally important institution. The Michigan Supreme Court is the guardian of justice, fairness, and freedoms for all Michiganders. The seven-person court makes decisions that touch every aspect of our lives, from civil rights and criminal justice to environmental protection and economic regulations.

Chances are, you know what's at stake in the next few years: reproductive rights, abortion laws, gun safety, immigrant rights and fair elections – and there's no telling what other issues may come before the court. The Michigan Supreme Court makes the ultimate decisions on the most challenging legal cases in the state, which require thoughtful, insightful, and robust deliberation to help ensure a fair outcome.

In Michigan, Supreme Court candidates are nominated by a political party, but their party affiliation is not included on the ballot. The justices are elected for eight-year terms, which means the votes you cast this year will make a difference for nearly a decade.

Plenty of Michiganders like to check the straight-party box, which is just fine – but don't stop there. To cast your vote for the Supreme Court candidates of your choice, you have to keep going to the non-partisan section of your ballot. You can't miss it. Get to know the candidates in advance, then mark the ballot to vote for the two people you think will do the best job of ensuring a strong, equitable future for our state.

Being a Michigan Supreme Court justice requires integrity, fairness, and a strong understanding of the law. In fact, candidates must be a licensed Michigan lawyer for at least five years. The Michigan Supreme Court is one of the three equal branches of our state government, along with the Legislature and Governor. Michigan voters have the privilege of choosing who is appointed to all three branches – and it's an important responsibility.

Remember: Don't stop at the top! Go all the way down the ballot to cast your vote for the two Michigan Supreme Court candidates of your choice. Your vote counts in every race, so make sure your voice is heard in this one, too.

Want to know more about the Michigan Supreme Court, the voting process, or how to spread the word about the importance of electing the people who will sit on our state's highest court? Visit **www.MISupremeCourtRocks.com** to get all the information you need to play your part in this important part of this year's election.

-Cindy Gamboa, MI Poder Executive Director

MI PODER

Paid for by Engage Michigan, 2727 2nd Ave., Detroit, MI 48201

Abre la puerta a tu sueño

Nuestro **Programa para Comprar Casa Propia**[1] puede ayudarte. Obtén hasta **$17,500** al combinar los subsidios para el pago inicial y los costos de cierre. (Se aplican restricciones.)

$10,000

Subsidio para el pago inicial de hasta $10,000, al combinarse con nuestra hipoteca de pago inicial del 3%[2,4]

+

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[1] **Programa de Pago Inicial y programa America's Home Grant:** los prestatarios que califican deben cumplir los requisitos para la calificación, como ser propietarios de la vivienda que ocupan y comprar una vivienda dentro de un área geográfica específica. Se aplican límites máximos de ingresos y de monto del préstamo. El mínimo de la proporción préstamo-valor combinada debe ser igual o superior al 80%. El préstamo para vivienda debe ser financiado por Bank of America. Bank of America puede cambiar o cancelar el programa de Subsidio de Pago Inicial de Bank of America o el programa America's Home Grant o cualquier parte de estos sin previo aviso. No está disponible con todos los productos de préstamo, por favor pregunte para obtener detalles.

[2] **Información adicional sobre el programa de Pago Inicial:** el programa de Pago Inicial está disponible con un producto de hipoteca. Los fondos del programa se pueden aplicar únicamente al pago inicial. Los prestatarios no pueden recibir fondos del programa en forma de reembolsos de dinero en efectivo que superen los depósitos realizados por el comprador. Es posible que el programa de Subsidio de Pago Inicial se considere como ingreso tributable. Se emitirá el formulario 1099-MISC; consulte con su asesor fiscal. Se puede combinar con otras ofertas. El programa de Subsidio de Pago Inicial de Bank of America solo se puede solicitar una vez para una hipoteca/propiedad que califica, sin importar el número de solicitantes. Es necesario que asista a un taller para compradores de vivienda.

[3] **Información adicional sobre el programa America's Home Grant:** el programa America's Home Grant es un crédito del prestamista. Los fondos del programa se pueden utilizar solamente para costos de cierre no recurrentes, incluidos el seguro de título de propiedad, cargos por registro y, en determinadas situaciones, se pueden utilizar puntos de descuento para reducir la tasa de interés. El subsidio no se puede aplicar al pago inicial, partidas previamente pagadas o costos recurrentes, como impuestos sobre la propiedad y seguro. Los prestatarios no pueden recibir los fondos del programa como reembolsos de dinero en efectivo.

[4] Se aplican límites máximos de ingresos y de monto del préstamo. Hipotecas con tasa fija (compras o refinanciamiento sin desembolso de dinero en efectivo), únicamente para residencias principales. Ciertos tipos de propiedades no califican. El máximo de la proporción préstamo-valor (Loan-to-Value, o LTV) es del 97%, y el máximo de la proporción LTV combinada es del 105%. Para proporciones LTV mayores al 95%, cualquier financiamiento secundario debe venir de un Segundo Programa Comunitario aprobado. Es posible que tenga que asistir a un taller para compradores de vivienda. Se aplican otras restricciones.

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EDUCATION / EDUCACION

Within Your Grasp

Advice on How to Achieve Your Academic Goals

By Dr. Aura J. Cazares

Editor's Note: With this issue we welcome a new contributing columnist, Dr. Aura Cazares, Assistant Dean of Students at Oakland University. Dr. Cazarez will share her advice for students and their families based on her own personal experiences and her career of more than two decades working with students in a variety of academic institutions.

The inspiration behind this column's name is a saying I use when I meet with students lately, "you already have a no, get after the yes." In a few weeks, many families will experience their first family member leaving to attend college or someone resuming their post-high school academic goals. So, how do we support our students when the system is different than what we know or if no one in our families has attended college/university before?

According to the U.S. Census and the organization Excelencia in Educatión, six percent of Michigan's population is Latino. Latino students make up nine percent of K-12 students and 22% percent of college students in Michigan. While all students face challenges to complete their degrees, Latinos enrolled in community colleges graduate at a 21% rate and 54% of students enrolled in a four-year institution complete their degree. In my role of Assistant Dean of Students at Oakland University, I have supported hundreds of students who are first-generation students enrolled in college and have witnessed their common challenges. In all honesty, my biggest connection to students is my lived experiences as a first-generation, immigrant student a few decades ago and my testimony that considering the support tips below will increase their ability to succeed and reach their academic goals.

Go for Yes!

Start on the right foot: Reading all the messages sent by all institutions is critical since they have deadlines that determine funding opportunities, and next steps about their situation. Communications in the month of August are important since the financial aid office will share payment plans and scholarships, the admissions office will share orientation dates, and the academic advisors on how to choose their classes. Create a flag or reminder for departments so that messages from these offices are not missed.

Nobody is born knowing everything: For many students, being the first student to attend college in their family turns into overwhelming pressure to succeed and know what they are doing. This pressure prevents them from recognizing they need help or asking for help. It is important to reinforce that there are offices with support services such as academic advisors, the Dean of Students office, and counseling centers.

Time is of the essence: Some students have additional obligations such as familial responsibilities that compete for their time and attention when they have to work on homework or projects. Other students have not been taught how to prioritize their time and additional obligations. In order to manage their time, the key is to add the hours of instruction they are enrolled and set aside one hour for each hour of instruction. This time management strategy will provide students an idea of how much time they need to assign to their studies so they can plan for additional responsibilities.

Over the next weeks I will continue sharing tips and keys to academic success that are within our grasp. I suggest that you share these tips with all the students in your life and remind them that the key to a successful academic year is to ask for help, remember there are departments who provide support, they are not alone in their journey, and we are proud of them.

Dr. Aura J. Cazares has over two decades of experience employing Spanish fluency and analytical skills to lead strategic enrollment and student support systems for a Catholic Jesuit University and a Hispanic Serving Institution, an urban community college, and currently leads support systems for students and diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives at a four-year institution. Her interest and passion are addressing systemic barriers that preclude student success and educating her community about how to achieve academic and professional success. She loves spending time with her family and friends, watching movies, and listening to audiobooks.

La Dra. Aura J. Cazares tiene más de dos décadas empleando fluidez en español y habilidades analíticas para liderar la matriculación de estudiantes y sistemas de apoyo en una Universidad Católica Jesuita y una Institución designada institución de servicio hispano o HSI (por sus siglas en ingles), un colegio comunitario e iniciativas de diversidad, equidad e inclusión en una institución pública de cuatro años. Su interés y pasión son desmantelar sistemas que impiden el éxito de los estudiantes y educar a la comunidad sobre como alcanzar el éxito académico y profesional. Sus pasatiempos favoritos son pasar tiempo con su familia y amigos, ver películas, y escuchar audio libros.

A Tu Alcance

Consejos para Lograr Nuestras Metas Universitarias

Por Dra. Aura J. Cazares

La inspiración del título de esta sección es el dicho que recientemente uso con mis estudiantes, "el no ya lo tienes, arriésgate por el sí." En unas semanas varias familias vivirán la experiencia de tener un miembro de sus familias empezando o continuando clases universitarias. Pero ¿cómo ayudamos a nuestros estudiantes cuando el sistema es tan diferente a nuestros países o si nadie en nuestra familia ha tomado ese paso?

Según las estadísticas reportadas por el censo de los Estados Unidos y la agencia Excelencia in Educación, el seis por ciento de la población de Michigan es Latina y el nueve porciento de los estudiantes de Michigan en grados Kínder- 12 tanto como el 22% de estudiantes universitarios de 18-34 años son Latinos. De los estudiantes matriculados en colegios comunitarios solo el 21% completan su programa y solo el 54% de estudiantes matriculados en universidades completan sus licenciaturas. Por lo cual mi meta como vicedecana de estudiantes es apoyar a cientos de estudiantes que son los primeros en cursar la universidad de sus familias. En sí, el lazo que me une a ellos es que yo estuve en su lugar hace más de dos décadas y sé que si consideran estos sistemas de apoyo incrementara sus posibilidades de completar sus metas postsecundarias.

¡Vamos por el Si!

Empezar con el pie derecho: leer todos los mensajes de las instituciones ya que tienen fechas límites y pasos a seguir sobre su caso. Agosto provee planes de pagos la oficina de ayuda financiera, fechas de orientación de la oficina de admisiones, y como seleccionar sus clases de sus asesores académicos. Lo ideal es crear un recordatorio o señal ligado a estos departamentos para que esos mensajes no pasen desapercibidos.

Nadie nace sabiendo todo: Para muchos estudiantes ser el primero en ira la universidad se convierte en presión de sobresalir, pero puede resultar en presión abrumadora que les impide pedir ayuda en cuanto la necesitan. Sistemas de apoyo proveído por oficinas como asesores académicos, decanos de estudiantes, y consejos están disponibles para brindarles apoyo.

Ganarle tiempo al tiempo: Algunos estudiantes tienen obligaciones familiares que compiten con sus tareas y proyectos escolares. A otros estudiantes no se les ha enseñado como dividir su tiempo y priorizar sus deberes. Para obtener el éxito académico la clave es primero calcular las horas de instrucción en el aula y después planear al mínimo una hora de estudio por cada hora de instrucción. Esto le dará una idea cuanto tiempo debe asignar a sus estudios.

Las próximas semanas continuare escribiendo sobre la clave del éxito académico y en otros ámbitos. Les pido que compartan estas recomendaciones con sus estudiantes y les recuerden que la clave para empezar el año escolar con éxito es recordar que hay áreas que brindan apoyo, no están solos, y el orgullo que sentimos por ellos.

Salvadorian grocery store in Southwest Detroit keeps culture, connection alive

La Cuscatleca brings Central American culture, goods to Detroit

By Martina Guzmán. Reprinted from Bridge Detroit. Photos by Alejandro Ugalde Sandoval.

On a Saturday evening, when most small businesses are closing down, La Cuscatleca, a small grocery store in Southwest Detroit, is a hive of activity.

Customers bustle in and out with takeout orders while others browse shelves filled with products from Central America. Behind the counter, store owner Doña Laura Vasquez stands next to a steamer filled with tamales wrapped in a banana leaf, her hair in a bun and an apron around her waist.

Vasquez, a long-time neighborhood resident, treats customers like extended family. La Cuscatleca is more than just a store; It's a gathering place for Central American immigrants – and she is their connection to home.

"I've been here for 15 years, I used to sell food from my house, now people come here to eat and to ask about jobs," Vasquez said.

Vasquez knows many of her patrons by name and asks about their day or their family, creating a sense of community and belonging where people come to shop and connect with others.

Here, customers can wire money to their families and buy hard-to-find ointments, canned food, and candy from back home, homemade specialty bread, and blue and white soccer jerseys from La Selecta, El Salvador's national soccer team.

In the back of the store is a small restaurant where the scent of pupusas sizzling on the grill fills the air, and beach towels with scenes of El Salvador hang as decoration.

Near the kitchen, workers and customers discuss El Salvadaor's recent reelection of Nayib Bukele, the controversial president accused of dismantling democratic institutions and of mass human rights abuses for his crackdown on gangs that once terrorized the country.

"Lo amo!" "I love him," says Anna, the cook. "He's been able to do what several presidents before him could not, get the gangs under control."

In the corner booth is Neto Grande, who is originally from El Salvador. He and his wife Nataly and their newborn baby drove 45 minutes to La Cuscatleca. They make the trip from Waterford a few times a year to eat and load up on groceries.

"Other than my family, this is the only restaurant that serves this kind of food," Grande said. "We also come to buy things from my country that can only be found here."

Eighteen-year-old Luis Adolfo Hernandez arrived from Honduras two years ago. He found a job roofing and feels lucky he can send money back home. Hernandez misses his family but says he feels like he's back home when he visits the store.

"They speak Spanish here, and I can send packages, shop, and get food. Hernandez said. "They make my favorite dish, pollo con tajadas."

Journey to business ownership

Doña Laura Vasquez arrived in Detroit in 1984. She left when El Salvador was at the height of its 12-year civil war when violence between the right-wing government and leftist guerillas terrorized the country. The brutality was marked by the assassination of Archbishop Oscar Romero and the murder of four Maryknoll Sisters, which caused international outrage.

Vasquez made her way to Mexico, and from there to Texas, then New York, and finally to Michigan. Months after arriving here, Vasquez fell into a deep depression. She had made the agonizing decision to leave her three little girls behind in El Salvador until she got established in the U.S. and could send for them. She couldn't bear being without them and worried all the time.

She said her late husband, Fidel Angel Trejo, noticed that she brightened up when she cooked and encouraged her to continue. Vasquez began making tamales, a time-consuming traditional food that kept her busy and her mind occupied for hours.

"I found a cooler that had wheels," Vasquez said. "I would walk to Clark Park with my cooler full of food and sell tamales made of pork and chicken."

Her husband worked at a meatpacking plant in Eastern Market. His coworkers asked if Vasques would cook for them. Cooking kept her busy and took her mind off worrying about her daughters.

She started out making food for five of his coworkers, but before she knew it, she was cooking for more than 50 people, including catering orders.

The kitchen took over her life. "I would wake up at noon and cook until five or six in the morning," Vasquez said.

But the long hours paid off. She was making money, which she invested into La Cuscatleca, her tienda at 6343 Michigan Avenue, where Central American immigrants have become part of the neighborhood. It also allowed her to reunite with her daughters and bring them to Detroit.

Clients line up to be attended by Laura Vásquez, the esteemed owner of La Cuscatleca. She has developed a close relationship with many clients, some of whom affectionately call her "Abuela" (grandma).

Ana Vásquez from Chalchuapa, El Salvador, serves a freshly made "Baleada," a national dish of Honduras.

Vasquez says La Cuscatleca has gotten much busier in the past two years.

"There are a lot more people from El Salvador and Honduras and Guatemala coming," Vasquez said. "I know, because of sales, the merchandise moves faster."

Vasquez used to travel to El Salvador every other month to buy products. But now, she says, she sometimes needs to go back monthly to meet demand.

"By mid-month, I'm already low on merchandise; I run out of cheese, cream, and medicine," Vasquez said.

A changing neighborhood

La Cuscatleca is a microcosm of what's to come.

For decades, Mexicans have been the dominant immigrant group in Southwest Detroit, but as Mexicans move further south to Allen Park, Lincoln Park, and Melvindale, Central Americans from Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador are moving in.

La Cuscatleca, celebrates the richness of Central American culture.

La Cuscatleca translates to "Woman of Cuscatlán," which refers to the historical territory that is now El Salvador.

In addition, Central American grocery stores and restaurants, such as Pupuseria y Restaurant Salvadoreño and El Catracho, which serve Central American cuisine, have dotted the landscape, taking space in a community saturated with Mexican restaurants and businesses.

The City of Detroit said it does not have data on the total number of migrants who have arrived, but signs of an influx are everywhere.

Walking distance from La Cuscatleca is St. Hedwigs, a church that was once a religious center for the Polish community in the early 20th Century. Then, for decades, Mexicans filled the pews. Now, according to St. Hedwig's, their congregation is more than 60% Guatemalan.

Ángel Trejo stands outside La Cuscatleca showcasing an order of Rice dough Pupusas con curtido. He helps his mother operate the market/ restaurant.

Social service agencies have also noticed a rise in Central American immigrants. About six months ago, Detroit Hispanic Development Corporation (DHDC), a Southwest Detroit nonprofit, began working with recent immigrant arrivals who had walked in off the street looking for help.

"We've had families from Honduras, and we've heard more anecdotes from people in the community that are receiving more Central Americans, particularly Hondureños and some from Guatemala even," said Raúl Echevarría, Director of Community Organizing & Advocacy at DHDC.

As immigrants continue to arrive from Central America and make their way to Detroit, they will be looking for a community.

"I will be here to take care of my customers," Vasquez said. They feel safe here."

Una tienda salvadoreña en el suroeste de Detroit que conecta con las raíces.

La Cuscatleca trae cultura y productos centroamericanos a Detroit

Por Martina Guzmán. Reimpreso de Bridge Detroit. Photos por Alejandro Ugalde Sandoval.

Un sábado por la noche, cuando la mayoría de los pequeños negocios están cerrando, La Cuscatleca, una tiendita en el suroeste de Detroit, está muy concurrida.

Los clientes entran y salen apresuradamente con pedidos para llevar, mientras otros recorren los estantes llenos de productos de América Central. La dueña Doña Laura Vásquez, está detrás del mostrador, parada junto a una vaporera llena de tamales envueltos en hojas de plátano, con el pelo recogido en un moño y un delantal.

Doña Laura, reside en el barrio desde hace mucho y trata a sus clientes como si fueran parte de la familia. La Cuscatleca es más que una tienda; es un lugar de reunión para inmigrantes centroamericanos, y ella es su conexión con el hogar nos comentó: "He estado aquí durante 15 años, antes vendía comida desde mi casa, ahora la gente viene aquí a comer y a preguntar por trabajo".

Ella conoce el nombre de muchos de sus clientes y les pregunta cómo les ha ido y que tal está su familia, lo que crea un sentido de comunidad y pertenencia, donde la gente va a comprar y a conectarse con los demás.

Gustavo M. envía dinero a su familia en El Salvador utilizando uno de los teléfonos exclusivos de la tienda.

Los clientes pueden enviar dinero a sus familiares, comprar ungüentos difíciles de encontrar, alimentos enlatados y dulces de su país, pan casero especial y camisetas de fútbol de La Selecta, la selección nacional de El Salvador.

En la parte trasera de la tienda hay un pequeño restaurante, donde el aroma de las pupusas chispeando en la parrilla, llena el lugar; con toallas de playa con estampas de El Salvador colgando como decoración.

Cerca de la cocina, los trabajadores y clientes comentan la reciente reelección de Nayib Bukele en El Salvador, el controvertido presidente, acusado de desmantelar las instituciones democráticas y de abusos en contra de los derechos humanos, por su ataque contra las pandillas que aterrorizaban al país.

Parte tienda, parte restaurante, La Cuscatleca se ha vuelto crucial para que las comunidades centroamericanas descubran importaciones únicas.

Doña Ana, la cocinera nos dijo: "¡Lo amo!, él ha hecho lo que los presidentes anteriores no pudieron; controlar a las maras".

En una esquina se encuentra Neto Grande, originario de El Salvador, que con su esposa Nataly y su bebé recién nacido, manejaron 45 minutos hasta La Cuscatleca desde Waterford, recorrido que llevan a cabo varias veces al año comentó: "Aparte de mi familia, este es el único restaurante que sirve este tipo de comida…También venimos a comprar cosas de mi país que solo se pueden encontrar aquí".

Luis Adolfo Hernández, de 18 años, llegó de Honduras hace dos años. Encontró un trabajo como techador y se siente afortunado de poder enviar dinero a casa. Le hace falta su familia, pero dice que se siente como en casa cuando visita la tienda: "Aquí hablan español y puedo enviar paquetes, comprar y conseguir comida… Preparan mi plato favorito, pollo con tajadas".

El viaje para ser la dueña de un negocio.

Doña Laura Vásquez llegó a Detroit en 1984. Salió de El Salvador cuando la guerra civil que duró 12 años estaba en su apogeo, cuando la violencia que ejercía el gobierno de derecha y la guerrilla de izquierda, aterrorizaba al país. La ferocidad estuvo marcada por el asesinato del arzobispo Oscar Romero y de cuatro hermanas Maryknoll, causando indignación internacional.

Doña Laura llegó a México, Texas, Nueva York y finalmente a Michigan; cayendo a los meses en una profunda depresión, pues había tomado la angustiosa decisión de dejar a sus tres niñas en El Salvador hasta que se estableciera en los EE. UU. y pudiera mandarlas a buscar. No podía soportar estar sin ellas y estaba preocupada todo el tiempo.

Comentó que su difunto esposo, Fidel Ángel Trejo, notó que se animaba cuando cocinaba y la alentó a continuar. Así que comenzó a hacer tamales, una comida tradicional que requiere mucho tiempo, manteniéndola con la mente ocupada durante horas:"Encontré una hielera con ruedas y me iba caminando hasta el Parque Clark, con mi hielera llena y vendía tamales hechos de cerdo y pollo".

Laura Vásquez sostiene un retrato de su difunto esposo, Fidel Ángel Trejo, el fundador del negocio que falleció en 2021.

Su esposo trabajaba en una planta empacadora de carne en Eastern Market, sus compañeros de trabajo le preguntaron si su esposa cocinaría para ellos. Lo que la mantuvo ocupada y le disminuyó la preocupación por sus hijas.

Heydi Paola de Nicaragua (izquierda) junto a Alex Alberto de El Salvador después de comprar en La Cuscatleca. "Venimos aquí desde Saline al menos dos veces al mes para encontrar productos que no podemos comprar en ningún otro lugar."

Empezó preparando comida para cinco de los compañeros, pero antes de darse cuenta, estaba cocinando para más de 50 personas, incluidos los pedidos de catering.

La cocina se apoderó de su vida dijo Doña Laura: "Me despertaba al mediodía y cocinaba hasta las cinco o seis de la mañana".

Pero las largas horas dieron frutos. Ganó dinero que invirtió en La Cuscatleca, su tienda en 6343 Michigan Avenue, donde ahora, los centroamericanos se han convertido en parte del vecindario. Permitiéndole reunirse con sus hijas y traerlas a Detroit.

Ella comenta que La Cuscatleca se ha vuelto mucho más concurrida en los últimos dos años: "Viene mucha más gente de El Salvador, Honduras y Guatemala", y añadió "Sé que, debido a las ventas, la mercancía se mueve más rápido".

A la izquierda, Ana Vásquez de El Salvador prepara una pupusa. A la derecha, Maritza Serrano de Honduras finaliza un pedido de Yuca con Chicarrón. Según su estimación, preparan un promedio de 200 pupusas diarias.

Doña Laura viajaba a El Salvador cada dos meses para comprar productos. Pero ahora, a veces necesita regresar mensualmente para suplir la demanda: "A mediados de mes, ya me falta producto; me quedo sin queso, crema y medicina."

Un barrio cambiante

La Cuscatleca es un ejemplo de lo que se avecina.

Durante décadas, los mexicanos han sido el grupo inmigrante dominante en el suroeste de Detroit, pero a medida que los mexicanos se mudan más al sur a Allen Park, Lincoln Park y Melvindale, los centroamericanos de Guatemala, Honduras y El Salvador están llegando.

Además, las tiendas y restaurantes centroamericanos, como la Pupusería y Restaurante Salvadoreño y El Catracho, han diversificado el paisaje, en una comunidad saturada de restaurantes y negocios mexicanos.

La ciudad de Detroit mencionó que no tiene datos sobre el número total de migrantes que han llegado, pero hay señales de afluencia en todas partes.

A poca distancia de La Cuscatleca se encuentra la Iglesia Santa Eduviges, siendo un centro religioso para la comunidad polaca a principios del siglo XX. Durante décadas, los mexicanos llenaron los bancos de la iglesia, pero actualmente en la congregación hay más del 60% de guatemaltecos.

Las agencias de servicios sociales también han notado un aumento en la cantidad de inmigrantes centroamericanos. Hace unos seis meses, Detroit Hispanic Development Corporation (DHDC), una ONG del suroeste de Detroit, comenzó a trabajar con unos inmigrantes recién llegados, que llegaron caminando en busca de ayuda.

Raúl Echevarría, Director de Organización y Defensa de la Comunidad en DHDC explicó: "Hemos tenido familias de Honduras y hemos escuchado más anécdotas de personas de la comunidad que están recibiendo a más centroamericanos, particularmente hondureños y algunos de Guatemala incluso".

A medida que los inmigrantes sigan llegando de América Central y se dirijan a Detroit, buscarán una comunidad y tendrán a Doña Laura: "Estaré aquí para cuidar de mis clientes… ellos se sienten seguros aquí".

Traducción por Carmen Elena Luna

Tigers Starting To Heat Up !!!

EL CENTRAL
HISPANIC NEWS
SPORTS

Sports Editor: Dan Graschuck/ EL CENTRAL

Photos by Mike Alberts/ EL CENTRAL

After sweeping the Seattle Mariners, the Detroit Tigers took 2 out of 3 games against the New York Yankees.

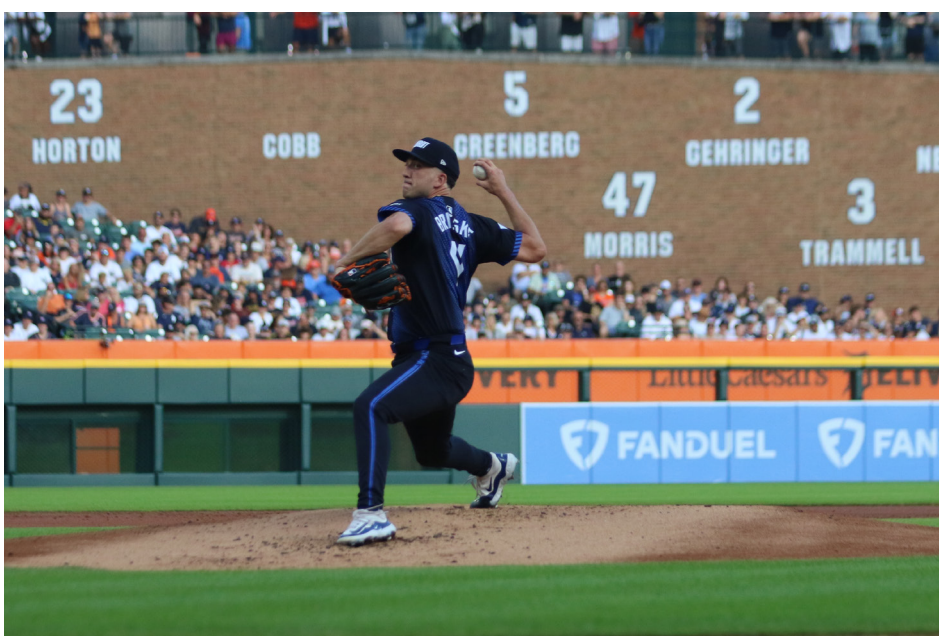
The Detroit Tigers played 2 of out of the 3 games at Comerica Park and played the final game, at Journey Bank Ballpark (in Williamsport, PA, on Sunday night), where the Little League World Series is currently being held at.

The Tigers defeated the Yankees, on Sunday night in the 10th inning 3-2.

Photos below are highlights from previous Detroit Tigers vs. New York Yankees Friday's game at Comerica Park

Yankees #26 DJ LeMahieu gets a hit against the Tigers. LeMahieu is a Brother Rice HS Alumni

Yankees #99 Aaron Judge CF, gets ready to hit against the Tigers. Judge hit a home run, and recorded his 44th home run during Friday's game



#4 Beau Brieske P, getting ready to pitch against the Yankess

#27 Trey Sweeney SS gets ready to his against the Yankess, during his debut with the Detroit Tigers

Paws poses with fans before the game

#17 Jace Jung 3B, gets a hit against the Yankees during his debut with the Detroit Tigers

Detroit City Revives Season

EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS
Pateando la No. 5
SPORTS

David Levine
EL CENTRAL

Not a moment too soon and perhaps several too late, Detroit City FC finally broke its long winless run with 1-0 win in Birmingham, Alabama.

Going south is always difficult, because of the heat and humidity. DCFC had been feeling plenty of heat after going eight games without a win, having drawn the last three in a row. Not only had Le Rouge lost touch with the top of the Eastern Conference, but they had also come dangerously close to the playoff line in the wrong direction.

Beating the Legion could be a vital turning point in the season. The Alabamian club still sits one point ahead of DCFC, but the gap would have been seven with a loss. More importantly, DCFC opened a five point gap from North Carolina FC, the ninth placed team currently missing out on the playoffs. However, the eight match winless run also coincided with DCFC using up its games in hand. Those games resulted in DCFC losing ground rather than gaining it.

Defender Brett Levis popped up with the winning goal after thirty-two minutes of an even contest that had one unusual feature. For a change, DCFC outshot their opponents. They registered five shots on goal to just one for the Legion. Carlos Saldana had a quiet evening in goal. The back four with Levis, Stephen Carroll, Devon Amoo-Mensah, and Matt Sheldon kept him shielded from much pressure. While the offense could have done with another goal to ease the suspense at the end, this has to be considered a solid, and desperately needed, away win.

Danny Dichio's team has not finished its crushing run of games just yet, though. This week they will go to Tampa on Wednesday and then host Tulsa on Saturday night. The Tampa Bay Rowdies are third in the Eastern Conference, six points ahead of DCFC. If ever there was a time to start a winning streak, this is it. The competition for the fourth seed is close. If City can just put together a winning run, a home playoff game is within reach. The Rowdies lost to Loudon at home last weekend and are winless in three.

Tulsa comes into Keyworth Saturday night (7:00 pm, Channel 50) also winless in three and fighting for the last playoff spot in the Western Conference. Now that most teams have just ten or eleven games left, they are in the final third of the season. Every point is vital and DCFC cannot afford to drop any more at home.

US SOCCER SELECTS POCHETTINO

When US Soccer sacked Gregg Berhalter following the abysmal showing in the Copa America, many observers said it came too late. Debate surrounding re-hiring Berhalter after the 2022 World Cup has never quite died down. Now, with less than two years to go before hosting the 2026 World Cup with Canada and Mexico, US Soccer has taken the plunge and made a major splash by agreeing to hire Argentine Mauricio Pochettino.

Much like he did when selecting a new coach for the US Women's team, Matt Crocker has looked towards Chelsea for success. He plucked Emma Hayes from the Blues to lead the women and achieved instantaneous success with an Olympic Gold Medal. Having seen that work, he has gone back to the well for Pochettino.

Pochettino's resume includes a lot of highlights as a player and a coach. He represented Argentina as a central defender at both the 1999 Copa America and the 2002 World Cup. He played for Newell's Old Boys in Argentina as well as Espanyol in Spain and Paris St. Germain in France. As a manager, he led unfancied Southampton to eighth place in the Premier League, their highest ever finish. It was at Southampton that he first crossed paths with US Soccer director Matt Crocker, then in charge of the Saints academy.

From Southampton, he went to Tottenham, whom he led to the final of the UEFA Champions League in 2019 and to a second place finish in the league behind the famous 2016 Leicester City team that shocked European football. He moved on to Paris St. Germain and won a league title there with Lionel Messi, Neymar, and Kylian Mbappe as his front line. Last season, he took a Chelsea team that had finished twelfth in 2022-2023 and improved them to sixth and qualification for the Europa League, a major achievement for a tumultuous club.

In May, Pochettino left Chelsea by mutual consent. He is going to take charge of a US team that has a talented generation of players who had become too complacent under the second go round of the Berhalter regime. As a manager with a record of improving young players, this appointment has the look of a success in the making. Unfortunately, the caveat is that international managers do not spend much time with their players. He will have approximately nine windows and a Gold Cup to evaluate the pool and get his ideas across. Emma Hayes had far less time, just four friendlies and a pre-Olympic camp, and produced wondrous results.

The current thinking is that assistant coach Mikey Varas will take the team for the September friendlies against Canada and New Zealand with Pochettino coming in for the October games against Panama and Mexico.

US Soccer has now made a statement hire in Mauricio Pochettino. This move will get the players' attention. It will also have the attention of the media and fans. Pochettino's assignment will be to improve upon the USA's elimination in the round of sixteen in Qatar. Playing at home with the most talented players this country has ever had, he will be expected to push for a quarterfinal spot. While the contract won't be officially signed until a few legal measures surrounding Pochettino's exit from Chelsea are sorted, the excitement is palpable. It's time for the American men's team to take tangible steps forward. Mauricio Pochettino looks like the right man to lead them.

Upcoming Detroit City FC match

Detroit City FC returned to winning ways Saturday on the road against Birmingham Legion FC, winning 1-0 thanks to a goal from Brett Levis.

This was the first victory for Le Rouge in 8 matches.

Next up, Detroit City FC is set to host FC Tulsa at Keyworth Stadium on Saturday, August 24th.

For more information about Detroit City FC, visit detcityfc.com and follow @DetroitCityFC on Twitter and Facebook and @detroitcityfootballclub on Instagram.

Photos below are highlights from Detroit City FC mens game against Birmingham Legion FC and upcoming match ad for Saturday

Photo provided by Detroit City FC (photographer Jon DeBoer)

For tickets please visit; https://seatgeek.com/detroit-city-fc-tickets

EDITORIAL OPINION

"Full Disclosure"

By Raoul Lowery Contreras

I am one of millions of Mexican Americans who raised my hand and swore allegiance to the United States of America; I swore to defend and protect the Constitution of the United States against all enemies foreign and domestic. It is the same oath the President of the United States swears to on January 20th, the day Presidents are sworn in.

I swore it on my 18th birthday in 1959. I did so in the battalion commander's office of the 1st tank Battalion of the United States Marine Corps Reserve. Lt. Colonel Gerald D. Schmidt swore me into an 8-year adventure that shaped my life. Where to?

In a direction dictated by 184 years of spirit and tradition the Marines had created by fighting "from the Halls of Montezuma to the shores of Tripoli;" from the forest of Beaulieu Wood in France (1918) to Guadalcanal in 1942, Iwo Jima, Okinawa, the 1950 liberation of Seoul, Korea and the "Frozen" Chosin Reservoir when I was nine, and would continue in Vietnam, the Middle East topped off by the battles of Fallujah in Iraq and the Marines' longest war, Afghanistan.

In my eight years before my honorable discharge, I never heard a shot fired in anger until I was on the border between illegal Armenian occupiers of 20% of the nation of next door Azerbaijan. There, Russian-manufactured artillery manned by illegal Armenian-so-called soldiers bombarded Azerbaijani villages on a regular basis while I was there as a journalist reporting on their 30-year war.

Nonetheless, men who had raised their hands and swore to what I did starting in WWII with my Uncle Johnnie lying to the U.S. Army so he could go to war with his buddies to fight Japan; then my cousin Luis joined the Army in 1943 and became an 82nd Airborne paratrooper whose first action was on June 6, 1944, parachuting into France. Then my grandfather who was too old to join so he contributed by being a construction worker helping the military build airfields on Pacific islands liberated by Marines so planes could bomb Japan. Civilian grandpa carried an M-1 carbine for self protection on Guam because Japanese soldiers kept fighting in some cases for months. Then came my Uncle (just one year older than me). He signed into the Navy and served 25 years.

Then there is me.

I was born in Mexico, like my Uncle Johnnie. When he lied about his age so he could join the 1944 Army, he claimed he didn't have a birth certificate because he was born in a mountain village in Mexico without electricity where the people were so isolated they didn't speak Spanish. It worked. He produced a letter in Spanish with my great grandmother's forged signature that stated his version of the story and off he went to war at 16.

In my case, a Staff Sergeant preparing my enlistment papers at the Battalion headquarters simply asked me If I was an American citizen. I said yes and that was it. No one ever challenged me until I needed a passport. As a journalist I asked the San Diego District Director of the Immigration & Naturalization Service (INS) for an interview. Sitting there in front of him I asked him to pick up the phone and instruct his office to make an appointment so I could get a Certificate of Citizenship.

Finally after a 15 minute interview, a Certificate of Citizenship was issued and I was on my way to the Passport office so I could travel the world and report on international events, war and more war. In all from 2015 to 2023 I flew over 90,000 miles to cover Christians fighting Muslims in Azerbaijan, Muslims fighting other Muslims in Syria.

I did this as an official U.S. citizen. So did my relatives who served before me.

That is why I object to Donald J. Trump's newest disgraceful stupidity that the military "Medal of Honor" isn't as worthwhile as the civilian decoration "Medal of Freedom" because Medal of Honor awardees are either, Trump says, "badly shot up or dead."

Trump even ordered the highest ranking general to not bring disabled veterans to any ceremony because it looked bad for Trump. In all, he values the "Medal of Freedom" because he could award it, in this case to a woman who, like Trump, did nothing important other than inherit millions of dollars.

On top of those Trump words, there is his insult of Captain John McCain (USN ret) for his five years in a communist prison and his insult of calling 1000 dead Marines - "losers and suckers" - killed in the famous four-week long 1918 Battle of Beaulieu Wood in France that crushed the German Army.

A vote for Trump insults every man and woman who has ever served in the U.S. military. Period.

Full disclosure, what is more important -- the Medal of Honor where most awardees have been killed or wounded in battle fighting for the U.S. or a woman who inherited millions of dollars from an octogenarian who made a hunk in Communist China?

Opinions in this column are not necessarily those of the Publisher or Editor

Do you have a contrary opinion? Write us at info@elcentralmedia.com

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Latinos Are Excited About Harris

Con't from pg. 1

Maria Teresa, president of Voto Latino, said Harris' jumping into the race has sparked a "coalescing of the community." In focus groups that the organization started after President Joe Biden announced he would drop out of the race, more than half of young Latinos who initially said they were voting for a third party said they were shifting to vote for the Democratic Party, Teresa said.

"There is no path to the White House without specifically the young Latino vote," she said. "Our path to a different direction of the country is through young people."

More than 6 in 10 Latinos voters supported Biden in 2020, according to AP VoteCast, and 35% supported former President Donald Trump. However, a July poll from Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research found that only about 4 in 10 Latinos said they were somewhat or very optimistic about the future of the Democratic Party, and about one-quarter said the same about the Republican Party.

According to the same survey, Hispanic adults are divided in their opinions on Harris, with 44% holding a favorable view and 43% holding an unfavorable view. But about half of Hispanic adults said they would be satisfied with Harris as the Democratic nominee, up from 15% earlier in July.

After watching the presidential debate between Trump and Biden, Peruvian Mexican small-business owner Guillermo Francisco Cornejo, 35, said he was not going to vote in the presidential election. That changed when Biden stepped down and endorsed Harris. But Cornejo's decision is mostly guided by fear of what Trump will do if he wins, he said.

"Now it's like, yeah, for sure I will vote Democrat," said Cornejo, adding that he sees Harris as "very well-qualified" to be commander in chief. "If Trump gets elected, he's turning this country into Latin America in the way he does politics and everything."

On Friday, the League of United Latin American Citizens endorsed Harris and her running mate, Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz, through its political arm, the LULAC Adelante PAC, the first time the country's oldest Latino civil rights group has endorsed a presidential candidate since its founding in 1929.

"We can trust them to do what is right for our community and the country," Domingo Garcia, chairman of LULAC Adelante PAC and LULAC's immediate past president, said in a statement. "The politics of hate mongering and scapegoating Latinos and immigrants must be stopped!"

Harris was criticized for comments she made in 2021 telling migrants not to come to the U.S, when she was tasked with overseeing diplomatic efforts to deal with issues spurring migration in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras as well as pressing them to strengthen enforcement on their own borders.

But Harris' being a daughter of immigrants provides a sense of representation to many Latino families, which could help her get their vote, civic engagement advocates say.

Pascale Small, 35, a Costa Rican American who is a daughter of immigrants and a single mother of three Afro-Latina girls, said Harris appeals to her because of her family's background and her "commitment to ensuring that we are healing and growing as a country."

"She has a spirit of service, which I really admire and really appreciate. She has an amazing pursuit of equity and that is really important to me as I am raising my children," said Small, who wants to see the vice president address issues such as climate change, education, the economy and immigration reform.

Maca Casado, the Hispanic media director with the Harris campaign, said Harris has a record of supporting Latinos and the issues they care about, like health care and gun violence.

"Vice President Harris' campaign knows Latinos' political power and is the only campaign working aggressively to make the case because we won't take their votes for granted," Casado said.

But Bob Unanue, the Hispanic Leadership Coalition chairman for the America First Policy Institute said Trump — not Harris — continues to show commitment to issues that resonate with the Hispanic community such as job growth, education freedom, parental rights and securing the border.

"Unlike Kamala Harris, who has failed to address the crisis at our southern border ... and continues promoting failed economic policies, Trump offers a vision of prosperity and safety that many Hispanic voters are rallying behind," Unanue said.

Experts have said Harris' pick of Walz will help the campaign appeal to voters in the important battleground states of Wisconsin, Michigan and Pennsylvania.

Teresa, the Voto Latino president, said in a statement that Walz has a strong record of defending democracy, voting rights and standing up for working families in Minnesota — values that align with those of the Latino community. Harris also has an opportunity to make her case in states like Pennsylvania with a large Puerto Rican population, which as U.S. citizens can vote once they move to a state, Teresa said.

Charlotte Castillo, managing director of Poderistas, a nonprofit organization focused on increasing civic participation by Latinas, said the announcement that Harris would be the Democratic nominee energized so many in the Latino community, which will be critical as in previous elections.

"I think in particular Latinas, typically we like to say, are the CEOs of their families. They are really driving the decisions for their families and have a huge influence on that," Castillo said. "So, I certainly think that Latinas have the potential to make a real outsized impact."

Castillo said whichever party is consistent in their outreach to Latino voters will get their vote.

"Once the community is engaged, they remain engaged," Castillo said. "Both parties need to start knocking on doors and doing it more consistently."

AP polling editor Amelia Thomson DeVeaux in Washington, D.C., contributed.

Fernanda Figueroa reports on Latino/Hispanic affairs as a member of the AP's Race & Ethnicity team.

A los latinos les entusiasma Kamala Harris

Con't de pg. 1

Al ser la minoría más grande del país -el 19,5% de la población total, según el censo de 2020-, los latinos forman un bloque electoral crucial en unas elecciones que según parece serán muy reñidas. Harris, hija de inmigrantes, se ha ganado el respaldo de influyentes grupos latinos, y algunos sienten que su éxito depende de que motive a los jóvenes latinos.

María Teresa, presidenta de Voto Latino, dijo que el hecho de que Harris haya ingresado a la contienda ha suscitado una "coalescencia de la comunidad". En grupos de reflexión que la organización inició después de que el presidente Joe Biden anunció que abandonaría la contienda, más de la mitad de los latinos jóvenes que en un principio dijeron que votarían por un tercer partido indicaron que cambiarían su voto para que fuese en favor del Partido Demócrata:

"No hay camino a la Casa Blanca si no se cuenta con el voto de los latinos jóvenes" y agregó, "Nuestro camino para que el país tome un rumbo distinto es a través de los jóvenes".

Más de 6 de cada 10 votantes latinos apoyaron a Biden en 2020, según el sondeo AP VoteCast, y el 35% apoyó al expresidente Donald Trump. Sin embargo, una encuesta de julio de Associated Press-NORC Center para la Investigación de Asuntos Públicos encontró que solo unos 4 de cada 10 latinos estaban algo o muy optimistas en torno al futuro del Partido Demócrata, y más o menos una cuarta parte dijo lo mismo sobre el Partido Republicano.

Según la misma encuesta, los adultos hispanos están divididos en sus opiniones con respecto a Harris: el 44% que tiene una opinión favorable y un 43% desfavorable. Pero aproximadamente la mitad de los adultos latinos dijeron que estarían satisfechos si Harris fuera la nominada demócrata, frente al 15% a principios de julio.

Tras ver el debate presidencial entre Trump y Biden, Guillermo Francisco Cornejo, un peruano-mexicano de 35 años propietario de un pequeño negocio, dijo que no iba a votar en los comicios presidenciales. Eso cambió cuando Biden dio un paso al costado y respaldó a Harris. Tomando su decisión con base principalmente en el miedo a lo que Trump hará si gana, señaló.

"Ahora es como que, sí, seguro votaré por los demócratas", dijo Cornejo, añadiendo que ve a Harris como "muy bien capacitada" para ser comandante en jefe. "Si Trump es elegido, él va a convertir este país en Latinoamérica por la forma en que lleva a cabo la política y todo".

El viernes, la Liga de Ciudadanos Latinoamericanos Unidos (LULAC, por sus siglas en inglés) respaldó a Harris y a su compañero de fórmula, el gobernador de Minnesota Tim Walz, a través del comité de acción política LULAC Adelante, siendo la primera vez que el grupo latino de derechos humanos más antiguo del país, ha respaldado a un candidato presidencial desde su fundación en 1929.

"Podemos confiar en que harán lo correcto para nuestra comunidad y el país", dijo en un comunicado Domingo García, presidente del comité LULAC Adelante y expresidente inmediato de LULAC. "¡Las políticas de odio hacia los latinos y los inmigrantes y de hacerlos chivos expiatorios deben acabar!"

Harris fue criticada por los comentarios que hizo en 2021, en los que les decía a los migrantes que no vinieran a Estados Unidos, cuando se le asignó la tarea de supervisar las iniciativas diplomáticas para abordar los problemas que impulsan la migración en El Salvador, Guatemala y Honduras, así como presionarlos para que reforzaran la aplicación de la ley en sus propias fronteras.

Pero el hecho de que Harris sea hija de inmigrantes les da a muchas familias latinas un sentido de representación, lo que podría ayudarla a obtener su voto, dicen activistas de participación ciudadana.

Pascale Small, una estadounidense de ascendencia costarricense de 35 años, madre soltera de tres niñas afrolatinas, dijo que Harris le parece una opción, por los antecedentes de su familia y su "compromiso de garantizar que estemos sanando y creciendo como país".

"Tiene espíritu de servicio, algo que yo admiro y aprecio. Busca sorprendentemente la equidad y eso es realmente importante para mí, ya que estoy criando a mis hijas", dijo Small, que quiere que la vicepresidenta aborde temas como el cambio climático, la educación, la economía y la reforma migratoria.

Maca Casado, directora de medios hispanos de la campaña de Harris, dijo que la vicepresidenta tiene antecedentes de respaldar a los latinos y los temas que les preocupan, como la atención médica y la violencia con armas de fuego y señaló:

"La campaña de la vicepresidenta Harris conoce el poder político de los latinos, y es la única campaña que trabaja enérgicamente para exponer sus puntos de vista porque no vamos a dar sus votos por sentado"

Pero Bob Unanue, presidente de la Coalición de Liderazgo Hispano para el America First Policy Institute, dijo que Trump, no Harris, sigue mostrando compromiso con temas que resuenan en la comunidad hispana, como el crecimiento laboral, la libertad educativa, los derechos de los padres y la seguridad de la frontera, declarando:

"A diferencia de Kamala Harris, que no ha abordado la crisis en nuestra frontera sur... y sigue promoviendo políticas económicas fallidas, Trump ofrece una visión de prosperidad y seguridad que muchos votantes hispanos respaldan".

Los expertos han dicho que la elección de Walz por parte de Harris ayudará a la campaña a atraer a los votantes en los importantes estados en disputa de Wisconsin, Michigan y Pensilvania.

Teresa, la presidenta de Voto Latino, dijo en una declaración que Walz tiene un sólido historial de defensa de la democracia, el derecho al voto y la defensa de la familia trabajadora en Minnesota, valores que se alinean con los de la comunidad latina. Harris también tiene la oportunidad de hacer valer su posición en estados como Pensilvania, con una gran población puertorriqueña, que como ciudadanos estadounidenses pueden votar una vez que se mudan a un estado, agregó Teresa.

Charlotte Castillo, directora general de Poderistas, una ONG enfocada en aumentar la participación cívica de las latinas, dijo que el anuncio de que Harris sería la candidata demócrata llenó de alegría a muchos miembros de la comunidad latina, cuyos votos serán cruciales, como en elecciones anteriores:

"Creo que, en particular, las latinas, como nos gusta decir, son las directoras generales de su familia. Realmente toman las decisiones para su familia y tienen una enorme influencia ", y añadió "Por lo tanto, ciertamente creo que las latinas tienen el potencial de tener un impacto realmente descomunal".

Castillo dijo que cualquier partido que sea constante en su acercamiento a los votantes latinos obtendrá su voto.

"Una vez que la comunidad esté involucrada, sigue comprometida", agregó "Ambos partidos deben comenzar a tocar puertas y hacerlo sistemáticamente".

La editora de encuestas Amelia Thomson DeVeaux de la AP en Washington, D.C., contribuyó a este despacho.

Fernanda Figueroa informa sobre asuntos latinos/hispanos como miembro del equipo de Raza y Etnicidad de AP.

Traducción por Carmen Elena Luna.

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Textil Art from Guatemala

Guatemala is one of the Latin American countries best known for its textile art, which belongs to one of the arts inherited by the ancient Mayans, since we must recognize that to this day the Mayan peoples have persisted with their legacy over the centuries.

Although its best-known textile art is the loom, made by both men and women, the waiststrap or backstrap loom is exclusive to women.

The backstrap loom, as its name suggests, is held at the waist through a wide strap and is supported by a fixed surface. It is made up of several parts, but, unlike the pedal loom, all of these are manipulated by the hands and are also easy to install in the home, so that women could weave while taking care of the family.

The backstrap loom is usually narrower than the pedal loom, however, it can reach great lengths, such as those that will be used to elaborate huipils and wedding dresses.

The art of the backstrap loom was taught by the Mayan Goddess Ixchel, who, watching the spider weave, built the first loom and taught the women of the community how to make it.

However, not everything is left here, since the loom also implies the art of storytelling through the different figures and symbolic representations, such as the zigzagging lines that represent a snake, changes and wisdom.

The textiles are, to a large extent, used to make pieces such as blouses and dresses, which are tied at the waist by a type of thick belts, also made on a loom, that serve as sashes.

It is common to find huipils (dresses and blouses) that require joining different pieces of fabric made on a backstrap loom to be made. So that in the piece we can see the pieces united.

Guatemalan textile art involves not only the art of the loom but also the art of embroidery and brocade. In many cases the embroidery is carried

out on the loom fabric, unlike the brocade that is made while and during the weaving of the loom.

One of the great problems faced by the textile art of indigenous peoples, indigenous peoples and native peoples, is the theft of designs, as people

find great fascination in the frameworks and geometric figures, instead of recognizing their talent. and creativity, they take the designs for their own purposes without involving them with royalties or, at least, with the recognition of authorship. On many

occasions these thefts are committed by renowned brands, as well as commercial fashion brands.

It is necessary and important to recognize artists and not call them artisans, since their procedures are highly careful and take a large number of hours for their preparation and design.

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Arte textil de Guatemala

Guatemala es uno de los países de Hispanoamérica más conocido por su arte textil, que pertenece a una de las artes heredadas por los antiguos mayas, pues debemos reconocer que a la fecha los pueblos mayas han persistido con su legado al paso de los siglos.

Si bien, su arte textil más conocido es el telar, elaborado tanto por hombres como por mujeres, el telar de cintura es exclusivo de las mujeres.

El telar de cintura, como su nombre lo dice, se sostiene de la cintura a través de una ancha faja y se sostiene de una superficie fija. Está constituido por varias partes, mas, a diferencia del telar de pedales, todas éstas son manipuladas por las manos y además, fácil de instalar en el hogar, de manera que las mujeres pudiesen tejer mientras cuidaban de la familia.

El telar de cintura suele ser más angosto que el telar de pedal, no obstante, llega a alcanzar grandes longitudes, como aquellos que serán utilizados para la elaboración de huipiles y trajes de boda.

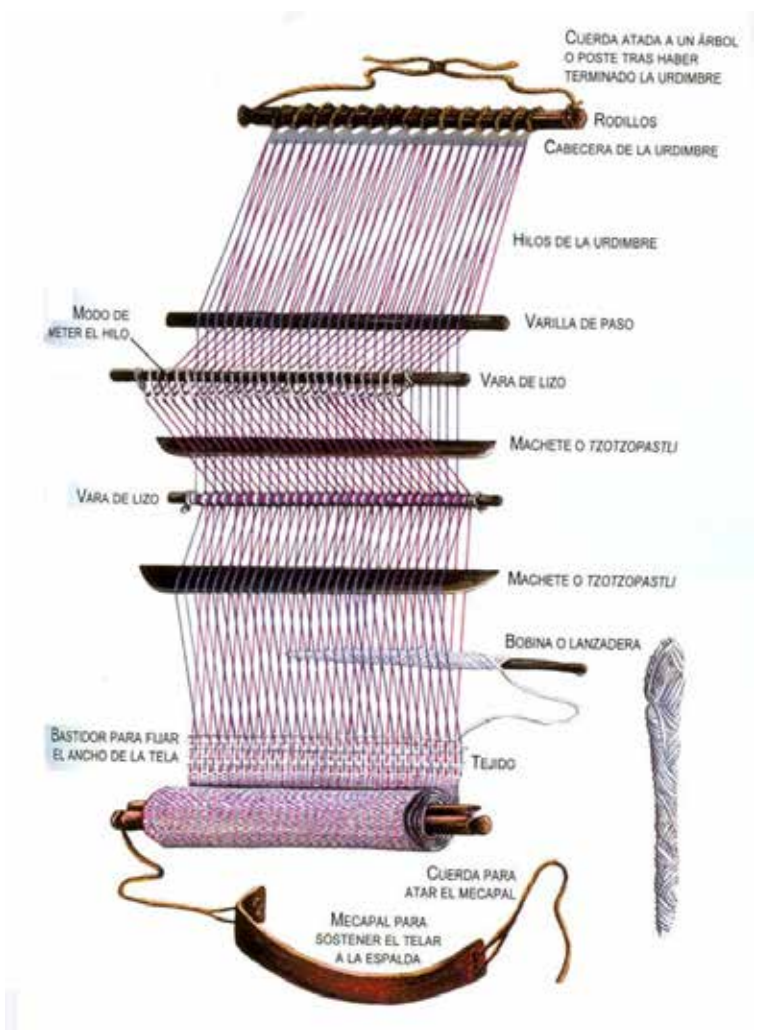
El arte del telar de cintura fue enseñado por la Diosa maya Ixchel, la cual, al mirar a la araña tejer, construyó el primer telar y les enseñó a las mujeres de la comunidad cómo elaborarlo.

Sin embargo, aquí no queda todo, pues el telar también implica el arte de la narración a través de las diferentes figuras y representaciones simbólicas, como lo es las líneas zigzagueantes que representan una serpiente, los cambios y la sabiduría.

Los textiles son, en gran parte, utilizados para elaborar piezas como blusas, blusones y vestidos, los cuales son atados en la cintura por un tipo de cintos gruesos, también elaborados en telar, que fungen como fajillas.

Es común encontrar huipiles (vestidos y blusones) que para su elaboración requieren unir diferentes piezas de tela elaboradas en telar de cintura. De manera que en la pieza podremos ver las tramas unidas.

El arte textil guatemalteco implica no sólo el arte del telar sino también el arte del bordado y del brocado. En muchas ocasiones el bordado se lleva a cabo sobre la tela del telar, a diferencia del brocado que se elabora mientras y durante el tejido del telar.



Uno de los grandes problemas a los que se enfrenta el arte textil de los pueblos originarios, pueblos indígenas y pueblos nativos, es el robo de los diseños, pues personas que encuentran en los entramados y figuras geométricas gran fascinación, en lugar de reconocerles su talento y creatividad, toman los diseños para sus propios fines sin hacerles partícipes con regalías o, mínimo, con el reconocimiento de autoría.

En muchas ocasiones estos robos son cometidos por marcas de renombre, así como marcas de moda comercial.

Es necesario e importante reconocer a los artistas y no llamarles artesanos, puesto que sus procedimientos son altamente cuidados y les toman gran cantidad de horas no sólo para su elaboración, sino también para su diseño.

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